

**CALVIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
*The Sixth Sunday of Easter: A Service for Worship at Home*  
 May 17, 2020

**Prelude**

*Take a moment to take a breath, and quiet your heart and mind.*

**Greeting**

Alleluia! Jesus Christ is risen!  
**He is risen indeed!**

**Opening Prayer**

Great and loving God, your will for us in Jesus is the peace which the world cannot give; your abiding gift is the Advocate he promised. Calm all troubled hearts, dispel every fear. Keep us steadfast in love and faithful to your word, that we may always be your dwelling place. Grant this through Jesus Christ, the firstborn from the dead, who lives with you now and always in the unity of the Holy Spirit, One God forever and ever. Amen.

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**Call to Worship**

Psalm 66:1-4

Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth;

**Sing to the glory of his name; give to him glorious praise.**

Say to God, 'How awesome are your deeds!

**'All the earth worships you; they sing praises to you, sing praises to your name.'**

**Hymn**

*Day of Delight and Beauty Unbounded*

**Confession**

Psalm 66:18-19

*"If I had cherished iniquity in my heart the Lord would not have listened. But truly God has listened; he has given heed to the words of my prayer."*

Lord, you have called us to obey your commandments – to love you with all that we are, and to love our neighbor as ourselves. We confess that we do not always do so. Though we proclaim a love for you, we all too often betray these

words with a lack of love for others. In our brokenness, we rely too much on ourselves, and so we fall short.

Yet you have promised to not leave us to ourselves. You have sent another Advocate, Mediator, and Comforter – the Holy Spirit, your very Self, to live in and among us. Forgive us, Lord, for not relying on your Spirit at work in us. Teach us again to love and serve you, and to love and serve our neighbor.

*(silent confession)*

### **Assurance and Peace**

1 Peter 3:18

*"For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God."*

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

**Thanks be to God!**

May the Peace of Christ be with you.

Throughout this week, continue to find ways to share the peace of Christ with one another.

### **Children's Message**

Downloadable materials for children (and the young at heart!) can be found on the church website ([www.CalvinChurchRI.org](http://www.CalvinChurchRI.org)) with the worship materials.

### **Scripture**

John 14:15-21

### **Sermon**

*Love and the Presence of God*

### **Hymn**

*Breathe On Me, Breath of God*

### **Offering**

**Please prayerfully consider the time, talents, or gifts you have received, and how you can give them back to God in love and service to others.**

We understand that these are uncertain and difficult times. But that is all the more reason that the work of the church continues. Please prayerfully continue to give your gifts to this ministry. You can take just a moment to give online through our website, or prepare a check to be mailed.

## Prayer of Dedication and the Prayers of the People

*parts of this prayer adapted from Rev. Jill Duffield, Presbyterian Outlook*

Lord, in you we live and move and have our being. You pour out your blessings upon us and we rest in your steadfast kindness. We cannot possibly return to you that which you deserve. We can only humbly present you with these gifts in gratitude and joy. Use our offerings, we pray, to show the love of Jesus Christ to a hurting world. May they be a source of hope and comfort to all who need to know they are not alone.

Holy Spirit – our Helper, Advocate, and Comforter – come to us now as we seek your wisdom and will. We want to love as Jesus commands, loving others no less than he loves us, and yet we struggle with pettiness and partisanship, with greed and selfishness, and with a freedom that is about us and not about being free to serve and love others. Breathe new life and love, mission and purpose into us.

As we abide in you who abide in us, may we remember those who feel forgotten; embrace those who know rejection; treat with tenderness those who have been abused; seek out those who are lost; stand with the vulnerable; speak up and speak out to those who oppress the weak; and abide with those who are brokenhearted until resurrection resounds throughout all creation.

Guide us in your work, that even as we lift up and pray for healing for those who are sick and comfort for those who mourn; Lord, even as we pray for those who have lost jobs and livelihoods, or who fear the same; guide us that the works of our hands may aid the answering of these prayers. Strengthen and protect our healthcare workers, give them courage and give them rest. May we be thankful for those who work, often for far less than they deserve, to keep our communities together. We think of teachers, those who deliver meals and packages, and stock groceries. And Lord, be with our leaders. Grant them wisdom and compassion, a desire for the common good, and the strength to do what is right.

And now, Lord, hear us as we lift up those whose names are known to us: Linda, Marsha and her mother and father, the Newman family, the Pak family, Steven's father Ron, Linda, Jackie and Chuck, Elaine; Marilyn, Miriam, Fran and all those at the Chapel Hill, Highlands, Waterman Lake, and Atria assisted living communities.

*(Personal/Silent Prayers)*

Holy Spirit – Helper, Advocate, and Comforter – come to us now to ease our burdens, refresh our souls, and make our joy complete. Come to us now to assure us that we are not alone – not now, and not ever. We are bold to pray, for we pray in the name of the One who taught us to pray together:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name;  
 thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.  
 Give us this day our daily bread;  
 and forgive our debts, as we forgive our debtors;  
 and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
 For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever.  
 Amen.

**Hymn**

*Love Divine All Loves Excelling*

**Benediction**

On this day, beloved of God, know that that the Son abides in the Father, you abide in the Son, the Son abides in you, and the Spirit breathes into you life and love.

May the love of God the Father, The grace of Jesus the Son, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, One God, be with you, now and forever. Amen.

**Postlude**

*All Hail King Jesus*